

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. No claim is canceled.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,559,951 issued to Dahl et al.

Claim 1 is directed to a medical electrical lead that includes: "a first electrode including a channel extending therethrough; a second electrode positioned distal to the first electrode; a first cable conductor including a first portion terminated in a first end and a second portion extending proximally from the first portion; the first portion of the first cable conductor extending through the channel of the first electrode and the first end of the first cable conductor coupled to the second electrode; a second cable conductor insulated from the first cable conductor, wound about the second portion of the first cable conductor and including a first end coupled to the first electrode; and a plurality of guides positioned along the second portion of the first cable, each of the plurality of guides includes a channel."

Dahl relates to a catheter assembly designed for long term or short term implantation in an animal body. The catheter assembly comprises a flexible tube of a biocompatible polymeric material in which plural electrical conductors are helically wound at a predetermined pitch with the conductors being laterally offset from one another and totally buried between the walls of the tube. The inclusion of the helically wound conductors in the walls of the tube also allows the torque transfer, flexibility and structural properties to be tailored to fit a variety of applications. As admitted by the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO), "a plurality of guides positioned along the second portion of the first cable, each of the plurality of guides includes a channel" is not disclosed in Dahl.

Claims 1-2, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,671,562 issued to Osyпка et al. Osyпка relates to a high impedance bipolar cardiac lead that includes a lead body with a distal

electrode assembly. The electrode assembly includes an anodic ring electrode and a coaxially disposed cathodic tip electrode. The anodic ring electrode and the cathodic tip electrode are separated from one another by a drug eluting insulating member. Osypka also does not disclose "a plurality of guides positioned along the second portion of the first cable, each of the plurality of guides includes a channel," as in claim 1.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious based upon Osypka in view of Mueller, or alternatively under Dahl et al. in view of Mueller. Applicants dispute all of the USPTO's statements made regarding claim 14; however, to expedite prosecution of this matter, Applicants amended independent claim 1 which therefore addresses the rejection of claim 14.

Withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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